Mali Group Discussion

Integrated Research ideas

1. Seed enterprises: value chain, quality control/management and business skills
2. Strengthening farm enterprises’ capacity for seed production (multiple crops)
   1. Characterization of seed enterprises
   2. Entrepreneurial skills
3. Seed as an entry point
   1. Demand for seed
   * Testing of new varieties
   * Assessing seed quality

Researchable hypotheses:

* + Strengthening cooperatives/enterprises’ capacity for production of planting materials (crops/trees) and in business skills will create sustainable seed enterprises.
  + This in turn leads to increase crop diversity on-farm
  + This will in turn provide opportunities for income generation, improved nutrition and system resilience

1. Land use management and fodder production
   1. Soil and water conservation and use
   2. Community grazing management
   3. Transhumance
   4. Forest management
   5. Local institutions for managing the above
   6. Small ruminants fattening and poultry
   7. Fishery

Research hypothesis: compare i and ii

* 1. Integrated crop/tree/livestock provides opportunities for improved soil and water conservation and use, building social cohesion for community grazing management, transhumance and local institutions
  2. Building social cohesion for community grazing management, transhumance and local institutions will facilitate integration and intensification (technology adoption and overall benefits)

Discussion of design and sampling options: consider sample structure for clustering;

Use ‘existance of land use convention’ as a criterion for characterization;

Use village within areas with an existing LUC also in the second treatment groups

#1]#[1]#Include a control group where there is no existing LUC, and no interventions

Increase the power of the comparisons,by conducting a similar comparison in Ghana